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their peculiar characteristics to banish war ultimately from the earth.

After the reading of a letter from Mrs. May Wright Sewall of Indianapolis, who was to have presided, but was unavoidably kept away, the meeting adjourned.

In Faneuil Hall, on Wednesday evening, a workingmen's public mass meeting was held, which was presided over by George E. McNeil of Boston. The speakers were Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, Pete Curran, representative to the Peace Congress of the General Federation of English Trades Unions, Henri La Fontaine, Socialist member of the Belgium Senate, Herbert Burroughs, representing the Social Democratic Federation, and Claude Gignoux, representing the Copartnership Societies of France.

Mr. Gompers said that the trades unionists and the men and women of labor are devoted to the establishment of peace, because it is they who have to bear the burdens of war and militarism. But peace, to mean anything, must be founded upon the principles of justice and right. It makes the heart sad to think that in this year of grace we are still confronted with wars and more wars that may yet come. War, whatever you call it, is international murder. The greatest element that will make for its abolition will be the organized forces of labor acting internationally.

Pete Curran spoke of the earnest desire of the nearly two million organized workmen in Great Britain that international peace should be established, because they were frequently the victims of war. War he considered more an industrial than even a commercial question. He thought that the net gain to the United States taxpayers of the annexation of the Philippines was about the same as that to Great Britain of the annexation of the Boer republic, that is, increased and useless burdens.

Senator La Fontaine gave a description of the political conditions in Belgium, and Mr. Burroughs urged workmen to use every sane method to bring about industrial peace, which in its turn would greatly aid in the establishment of international peace. Mr. Claude Gignoux, speaking in French, developed the thought that neither the victor nor the vanquished gained anything from war.

Mr. McNeil introduced some resolutions, which were adopted by a rising vote, declaring in substance that trade-unionism makes for peace, that justice and equity to the workers would naturally tend to abolish the causes of war, and making, in the name of organized labor, a protest against war.

Arbitration held at Washington in January last and in April, 1896, Mr. Foster has had wide knowledge of the subject in his long diplomatic career, and no public man has a completer understanding than he of the spirit, the purposes and the already large success of the movement to substitute arbitration for force in the adjustment of controversies between nations.

In his treatment of the subject he first gives a brief — all too brief — historical review of the movement which led up to the Hague Conference; then he devotes some pages to the calling, the work and the importance of the Conference. In the third chapter he discusses disarmament as it was considered by the Hague Conference, quoting from the speeches made by some of the leading delegates. Mr. Foster is strongly in favor of an international agreement for the restriction of armaments, and feels that our government ought to keep itself in a position to respond without embarrassment to a call in this direction.

A full chapter is devoted to the Arbitration Convention, "the crowning work of the Hague Conference," another to the constitution and work of the Permanent Court, for which that Convention provided, and still another to some suggested modifications of the Court.

After a brief discussion of special and joint commissions, which he considers to have still a good deal of value alongside of the Hague Court, Mr. Foster in his "Conclusion" expresses his firm belief that the Hague Court, though imperfect, is a great and highly valuable instrument toward the preservation of peace, and he advises the friends of universal peace to make it their policy "to perfect that instrument, and to make the Hague Court popular with the nations as an effective means of adjusting international differences."

In an Appendix the text of the Hague Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes is given; so is that of the Anglo-French treaty of October 14, 1903, that of the Netherlands-Denmark treaty of February 12, 1904, and an extract from the Spanish-Mexican treaty of 1902. There is also included in the Appendix the history-making resolution adopted by the Interparliamentary Conference at St. Louis on the 13th of September, this year, and the speech of the Hon. Theodore E. Burton on the naval appropriation bill in the National House of Representatives on the 22d of February last.

The book will be a most useful and helpful concise manual of the arbitration movement to all those who desire to get, without going deeply into details, a comprehensive view of the subject.

New Books.

ARBITRATION AND THE HAGUE COURT. By John W. Foster. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Price \$1.00 net.

Hon. John W. Foster has just rendered an important service to the cause of international arbitration and peace by the publication, through Houghton, Mifflin & Co. of Boston, of a monograph on "Arbitration and the Hague Court." This work was prepared at the suggestion and invitation of the Mohonk Arbitration Conference over which Mr. Foster presided for two years. Besides his connection with this and the National Conferences on

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